Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 18, 2010
Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico
Meeting Room B

Call to order: 7:05 by Terri Tippit

Attendance: Barbara Broide (Seat 7), Brandon Behrstock (Alternate Seat 17), Steve Spector (Seat 3), Dick Harmetz (Seat 10), Lisa Morocco (Seat 2), Terri Tippit (Seat 8), Bob Guerin (Seat 13), Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12), Melissa Kenady (Seat 16), Charles Horwitz (Seat 15), Jerry Asher (Seat 6), Mary Kusnic (Seat 11), Letty Bugarin (Seat 5), Drew DeAscentis (Seat 9), Michael McIntyre (Seat 1)

Introductions of new alternates were made; Frances Beale-Rosano is alternate for Bob Guerin/Seat 13 and Brandon Behrstock is alternate for Ty Vahedi/Seat 17.

Approval of October 14, 2010 Minutes: Lisa Morocco moved to approve the minutes. Jerry Asher seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-0-3 (Brandon Behrstock, Letty Bugarin and Melissa Kenady abstained).

Appointment of Nominating Committee: Terri Tippit appointed Charles Horwitz, Colleen Mason and Drew DeAscentis. Interested parties should submit their names.

Public Forum:

- Jeff Sealy of Bev Mo introduced new store manager Danny Brown and asked for feedback regarding the store from stakeholders. Positive comments were made by Colleen Heller, Mary Kusnic, Melissa Kenady and Lisa Morocco thanked Bev Mo for contributing bottled water to WNC community event. Barbara Broide commented that neighbors did not like color of the store.

- Andrew Lachman from State Senator Price’s office reported that a special session to address the state deficit is scheduled. A holiday party on December 9 at the African American Museum. Call For Ideas meeting to focus on efficiency in government will meet second Monday of every month in City Hall East.

- Rebecca Lobl from LA Coalitions for Neighborhoods (www.LA4Neighborhoods.org) addressed the Council on stakeholder’s concerns regarding transient residential uses of single family dwellings in low density zones. Concerns include high occupancies, second hand smoke, traffic congestion, parking problems etc. There is a petition to sign on their website. A retired psychologist spoke of support needed by many veterans who use these facilities.
Barbara Broide moved as follows:

“The CPC-2009-800-CA; ENV-2009-801-ND ‘Community Care Facilities’ ordinance for community care facilities in low density residential areas shall

(1) Limit the concentration of facilities,
(2) restrict locations near schools and other sensitive areas by 1,000 feet
(3) require a public hearing for all applications directing that a public benefit must be demonstrated and / or where the applicant requests a reasonable accommodation,
(4) provide an affirmative statement that no legal non-conforming use is created by the ordinance,
(5) provide definition of a bedroom and
(6) provide that no staff, clients, guests or any other users of the facility may smoke in an area from which second hand smoke may be detected on any parcel other than the parcel upon which the facility is located.

Jerry Asher seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously with Seat 17 abstaining.

~ Monica Born, from Expo Authority, reported an ENA (exclusive negotiating agreement) was signed between Expo/Metro/Casden, formalizing the right to discuss various developments on the “Casden project”; ie. Metro Row, bicycle access, pedestrian access. Barbara Broide and Annette Mercer voiced concerns about the lack of transparency and unobserved communication allowed by this agreement. Jerry Asher disagreed, stating a private company has the right to discuss business with a public entity.

Jay Greenstein assured the WNC that no action will be planned without communication with the HOAs and WNC. Terri Tippit will write a letter to CD 5 outlining stakeholder concerns.

Committee Reports:

Outreach Committee:

Lisa Morocco and Charles Horwitz reported on Take Me Out to the Movies 2010. The second annual event raised $3315 for 5 local schools and additional donations for School on Wheels and the West LA Animal Shelter for a total benefit of $5550.00
Lisa Morocco reported on second outreach event, Take Me Home Days 2010. Macerich in partnership with the WNC held five mobile pet adoption fairs at the Westside Pavilion which resulted in 15 dogs being adopted and participating animal rescue groups receiving cash donations and increased community awareness. Full reports of these events can be found on the WNC website.

**Pico Beautification**
Lisa Morocco reported that the master plan has been completed and CD 5 has hired Kathryn Cerra as project manager for MTA Calls for Project. In reviewing the Streetscape Master Plan for Pico Blvd Beautification/Phase One Improvements, key concerns are to improve pedestrian experience through traffic and safety projects (ie ADA access ramps, audible intersection signals, shared lane marking for bicycles and bus safety lighting).

Total project cost (rounded) $1,520,000.00

The Draft 2011 Call for Projects – Project Nomination Form was also distributed.

Drew DeAscentis moved that “The Westside NC recommends to CD 5 that the allocation of $30,000, which was reserved for Overland Gateway, be moved to the Pico Beautification project and be used for Traffic and Safety Enhancements on Overland.

Annette Mercer voiced concern that safety concerns raised by Overland Gateway will be dismissed. Drew DeAscentis responded that the Expo project will change Overland Gateway and the committee will continue to study the project.

Motion passed unanimously.

**CD 5 Report by Jay Greenstein**

- noted dialogue will continue re concerns raised re Beverlywood traffic
- resurfacing of Pico Blvd limited due to DOT cutbacks
- restriping of Pico Blvd prioritized but without completion date
- proposed location of cell tower @ Brookhaven/Kelton has been moved south, closer to freeway

Jerry Asher moved to adjourn @ 9:45pm
Melissa Kenady seconds - Motion passed unanimously.